

Appl No. 10/800,134
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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fabric comprising: a yarn, said yarn comprising one or more sericin-extracted fibroin fibers that retain their native protein structure and have not been dissolved and reconstituted, said fibers being biocompatible and non-randomly organized, wherein said yarn promotes ingrowth of cells around said fibroin fibers and is biodegradable.
2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric as recited in claim 1, wherein the sericin-extracted fibroin fibers comprises fibroin fibers obtained from *Bombyx mori* silkworm.
3. (CANCELED)
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, wherein the fabric is non immunogenic.
5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, wherein the sericin-extracted fibroin fibers include less than 20% sericin by weight.
6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, wherein the sericin-extracted fibroin fibers include less than 10% sericin by weight.
7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, wherein the sericin-extracted fibroin fibers include less than 1% sericin by weight.
8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, wherein the yarn has an ultimate tensile strength of at least 0.52 N per fiber.
9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 8, wherein the yarn has a stiffness between about 0.27 and about 0.5 N/mm per fiber.

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10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 9, wherein the yarn retains 80% of its UTS when tested wet.
11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 9, wherein the yarn has an elongation at break between about 10% and about 50%.
12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 11, wherein the yarn has a fatigue life of at least 1 million cycles at a load of about 20% of the yarn's ultimate tensile strength.
13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, wherein the yarn comprises parallel or intertwined sericin-extracted fibroin fibers.
14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The yarn of claim 13, wherein said yarn comprises at least three aligned sericin-extracted fibroin fibers.
15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The yarn of claim 14, wherein the aligned sericin-extracted fibroin fibers are intertwined.
16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The yarn of claim 15, wherein the yarn is a braid, textured yarn, twisted yarn, cabled yarn, and combinations thereof.
17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The yarn of claim 16, wherein the aligned sericin-extracted fibroin fibers are twisted or cabled about each other at 0 to 11.8 twists per cm.
18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, further comprising a yarn having a single-level hierarchical organization, said single-level hierarchical organization comprising a group of parallel or intertwined yarns.
19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fabric of claim 1, further comprising a yarn having a two-level hierarchical organization, said two-level hierarchical organization comprising a bundle of intertwined groups.